

ARRAS CATHEDRAL AND HALL RUINED

Priceless Works of Art in French Town Said to Have Been Destroyed by Artillery Fire.

REGION A VERITABLE INFERNO

Battle Started on First of Present Month and Locality Was Subjected to an Incessant Rain of Shells.

LONDON, Oct. 9.—The correspondent of the Telegraph in the northwest part of France sends the following: "Refugees reaching the coast today from Arras report that the Germans on Wednesday shelled the town, ruined the belfry of the ancient Hotel de Ville (town hall), and sent several shells into the cathedral. Whether the shell fire damaged Rubens' famous picture, 'The Descent from the Cross,' and other priceless works of art cannot be learned. The wrecked belfry was the greatest ornament of the town.

"There has been fighting around Arras for several days. An enormous German force gathered on the plain east of Arras last Saturday. The attack began Monday, with the heaviest fighting on Tuesday and Wednesday. The early bombardment did small damage, but the shells on Wednesday spread wholesale death and destruction. Many of the citizens had fled on the urgent advice of the authorities.

Germans Gain Town.
"The Germans gained the town after a desperate encounter and entered by the Porte St. Michel, after getting a footing outside of the historic rampart. Once inside the town the Germans had to rest before advancing on the allies west of the town.

"The allies, who had been reinforced from Amiens, entered by the Porte D'Amiens. There was hot rifle fire in the streets, supplemented by work with the mitrailleuses. Gradually the allies advanced and pushed the Germans out of the town."

"The Times' Boulogne correspondent, who has been on the scene, relates some phases of the fighting on the French wing. The correspondent says he went unsuspectingly to Arras September 22. The battle of Arras began October 1 and the whole region became a veritable inferno. All around was an incessant hail of shells and shrapnel, violence, destruction and death.

"On the previous Thursday," the correspondent continues, "the allies were battering at the gates of Cambrai. On Friday the enemy developed a vigorous counter attack from Valenciennes on Lens and from Cambrai and Hopuone on the allies' position south and east of Arras.

"On Saturday the enemy greatly reinforced, attacked with great violence all along the line. The allies were compelled to fall back from Lens and Douai, fighting stubbornly the while. The enemy occupied Dethune and sent troops into Lille, firing from windows as they went.

Swept Around Town.
"When I left Arras the enemy's shells were bursting within three kilometers of the town. I since have heard that shells fell in the town and that three streets were set on fire. The enemy did not enter Arras. They swept around it. They cut a line between Arras and St. Pol, seeking to effect a junction with their Bethune force.

"They came into contact with strong French reinforcements and were driven back in the north. In the north they retired to La Bassée, with their right wing resting on Lille. The tide of the battle has been stemmed, perhaps turned in favor of the allies.

Fight Developed Quickly.
"This battle of the north developed with amazing suddenness, as may be gathered from the diary of my experiences."

"The diary describes the beginning of the battle on October 1 and goes on to say:

"As darkness fell the tired, bloodstained soldiers began streaming into Arras, and for hours the air resounded with the din they made. Throughout the night the boom of guns could be heard in the distance from the east and southeast.

"The next morning opened quiet in town, but the roar of guns was still heard, and as the day advanced the sound was coming nearer, but the citizens showed a stout heart and had plenty of occupation tending the wounded, who were being brought in continuously.

Losses Heavy on Both Sides.
"The losses on both sides have been very heavy. In one action alone today five German regiments were cut up and the horses of their convoys stampeded. They were advancing on Arras by the road along the river Scharpe and at the village of Plouvaln they came under the devastating fire from our artillery and the whole five regiments broke and fled.

"The day, however, has not been altogether favorable for the allies, as the French were obliged to fall back considerably. This evening the enemy's shells are falling near the Arras station. Tonight, squadron after squadron of war-stealers and three dragons are riding into Arras, while long lines of limbers are rattling out on the Douai road, laden with shells for tomorrow. It is a serene, moonlight night, but the guns are roaring, still, not having ceased since daybreak.

"On October 3 I am awakened at daybreak by the thunder of heavy guns, now from the north and east, where the third day's battle is raging in a triangle formed by Arras, Lens and Douai. During the day I watched a daring aeroplane fight

in the air and am invited to watch the battle at closer quarters.

"I am conducted to some rising ground outside the town, where I saw a wonderful battle scene. In front, on the horizon, a farmhouse is blazing fiercely and the black smoke trails across the evening sky. Within 200 yards of us the French batteries are in action, shelling the woods to drive out the enemy. Presently the German artillery begins shelling the battery near us. As the shrapnel fire becomes heavier and nearer, our guide suggests it is time to go.

"October 4.—The action is now general in all directions. We go out in the afternoon with the Red Cross to aid in bringing in the wounded. Going in the direction of Cambrai, the shells hurtle overhead as we run the gauntlet. A way to the south villages are in flames and northward a huge cloud of black smoke hangs over Lens, where the coal mines are on fire.

"It is a real battle scene, awe-inspiring and fascinating. We reach a little hamlet where every building is full of wounded, and the nurses and doctors are working heroically at the terrible, shrapnel-mangled limbs. We take all we are able in the cars back to Arras station, where they are entrained.

"Entering Arras again, we learn that all the men between 18 and 45 have been ordered to leave town. They are already streaming out on foot for St. Pol, and we join them, also afoot.

GERMANS CROSS RIVER SCHELDT

(Continued from Page One.)

through Alost toward the Scheldt. "The previous attacks of the Germans on the river were all made under cover of violent artillery assaults, which repeatedly proved futile. The last of these open attacks was on Monday evening and was defeated by the vigorous defense of the allies.

Bridge Built at Night.
"After this defeat the Germans changed their tactics. Instead of making an advance in force on the Schoonebeek position they crept up during the night toward a riverside point further east. Here they threw across a pontoon bridge and at 6 o'clock this morning about 500 infantrymen were seen crossing under cover of a heavy artillery fire.

"They were observed by the Belgian patrols who immediately opened fire. The defenders, however, were in very small numbers and after accounting for a few of the advancing infantry they withdrew to the main Belgian lines.

"Simultaneously the Germans commenced an action all along the river side line, extending from Termonde to Uytendaele, a few miles east of Grembergen. They met with a vigorous defense, in which both the artillery and infantry participated and at one point they were repulsed by a bayonet charge. Again the enemy advanced, this time in augmented strength and succeeded in breaking through.

"During the morning the Germans brought up several batteries of heavy guns. These outranged the Belgian artillery and forced its retirement, but it continued to harass the advancing infantry. It was noticeable that a Taube aeroplane directed the German operations.

"As soon as it became known that the Germans had crossed the river the Belgians brought up troops to hold them back under cover of batteries which were shelling the enemy's main position on the enemy.

One Battery Forces Passage.
"At 1:30 o'clock this afternoon a hotly contested battle was engaged along the whole line. The mitrailleuses played a considerable part in the fighting. Many of those employed by the Belgians are drawn by dogs, several of which I saw lying wounded in the roadside.

"Subsequently the Germans made desperate efforts to bring their artillery over the pontoon bridge. This was fiercely contested by the Belgians and two guns were destroyed by shrapnel midway across. One battery, however, succeeded in forcing a passage. It was quickly brought into action and concentrated a vigorous fire on the area held by the Belgians to the east of Berlaere.

"After several hours of fierce fighting the enemy brought up strong reinforcements from the south. They threw large bodies of infantry over the pontoon bridge and, although many were swept away by mitrailleuses, a considerable number succeeded in passing over. They occupied houses in Berlaere and from these vantage points kept up a rifle fire on the Belgian infantry.

"At the moment of sending this dispatch the battle is still in progress. Although they have not yet got any large body of men across the Scheldt the Germans are evidently making a determined advance with a view, no doubt, of approaching Antwerp from the southwest."

First Line of Defense Falls.
ANTWERP, Oct. 8.—(Via London).—The Germans on Saturday spent sixteen hours in a terrific artillery duel in an effort to ford the Nethe. The Belgians held their ground magnificently, and with great sacrifices prevented the Germans from crossing. The Germans were evidently unwilling to lose men in an assault and decided to widen the breach through the fortifications by bombarding the forts between the river Senne and Scheldt, which were unable to hold out against the steady downpour of shells.

"Thus the first line of Antwerp's defenses was destroyed. For the final attack the Germans are hurrying 300,000 men to the scene of battle from Aix La Chapelle via Brussels.

"The Germans are boring a hole through the Belgian resistance like the boring of a tunnel through a mountain, in which progress no mercy is shown. Whatever interferences—villages, churches, schools and factories—are wiped out with steady precision.

Miles of Blackened Ruins.
The road from Brussels to Antwerp is one line of blackened ruins. Some of the towns, including Termonde, have been completely erased. The population fled before the Germans like Americans before a prairie fire. An endless procession of peasants and shopkeepers, young, old and invalids, with their chattels loaded in hand carts and antiquated wagons, and followed by countless children, dumbly pursuing their parents, driving belching cattle, are slowly moving in the direction of Antwerp's cathedral tower. They have difficulty in avoiding the numerous military trains of guns, wagons and automobiles rushing to the front, and occasionally they have to make way for ambulances hastening toward the city with men wounded in the fighting.

The refugees, on arriving in Antwerp, are cared for by the civil guards and boy scouts and taken to the public buildings and the German shops, which, contrary to the accepted version, were not destroyed, but were temporarily taken over by the government. The refugees are well fed and large numbers of the

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children have been taken in charge by nuns, who are caring for them.

Dead Left Where They Fall.
The German shells continually strike the roads leading to Antwerp, and the exploding shrapnel has in some cases played havoc among the peasants. The dead are left where they fall and the wounded are placed in wagons and taken along. In the city they are placed in charge of the local police, who have hoisted red and white bombardment flags on the churches and public buildings.

During the worst part of the battle on the Nethe many priests and monks were on the firing line, attending the wounded and giving the last care to the dying.

CHICAGOANS ARE ASKED FOR RED CROSS FUNDS
CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—Mayor Harrison in a proclamation today, the forty-third anniversary of the great Chicago fire, urged Chicagoans to contribute liberally to the Red Cross fund, pointing out that Euro-

pean nations now at war gave \$85,000 to relieve suffering here after the disastrous fire.

Work of collecting a \$100,000 fund here for the American Red Cross society began yesterday under the direction of fifty of the city's wealthiest business men. Collections totaling \$25,000 were made on the first day.

City of Przemysl Reported in Flames

ROME, Italy, Oct. 9.—(By way of London)—The Russian ambassador, while denying a report that the garrison of Przemysl, in Galicia, had surrendered to the Russians, added: "However, the whole town is on fire and its capitulation is now inevitable."

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| 50c Doan's Kidney Pills | 34c | \$1 Hyomel, complete | .83c | \$1.00 Plinkham's Compound | 50c | |
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| 25c Espey's Fragrant Cream | 14c | for | 29c, 79c | 25c Tiz for | 14c | |
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